753 1/2 WARFIELD AVE.
OAKLAND, CALIF.
94610

4-18-71

Dear Hal,

It was real good to hear from you again—this time directly to my new address. Before I begin to tell you about what's been happening with me—first, let me point out to you that the address you had typed on the envelope to me was incorrectly typed as: 735 1/2 Warfield Ave. It should be: 753 1/2 Warfield (Zip code is 94610). I don't know if the Whites gave you the wrong address or whether you inadvertently typed it wrong but make sure you correct it. The letter took 4 days to get here and perhaps the reason was the incorrect address.

I don't have a phone as yet primarily due to the fact that I finally (last week) was still paying off my old phone bill which was really a huge amount mostly due to the phone calls I had placed to my girl friend in Europe.

The latter—as you may have guessed—is really the reason I haven't written or remained practically incognito for a long time. You probably surmised that I was quite involved with my girl friend and when she decided to move to Europe for a while I was really depressed for a long period. That is the main reason I took off on a vacation to Europe and saw her. I thought I could just about get along

without her for a while but I couldn't and so I took off for about a month. It cost me a bit (and I borrowed to cover it) but it was worth it—every bit of it. I was never happier when I finally got there. We made every minute count when we travelled together and the only letdown was after my return here to the U.S. But what complicated the matter further was that while I was in Europe I was laid off from my job. I didn't know it and ironically sent a telegram to the office where I worked telling them I'd be a day late (and they were trying to contact me!). I wasn't really prepared for that blow even with my awareness of the system we have to all operate under and in fact had figured to recover all my debts by working on my return back. That meant more money to borrow and sinking deeper into debt. If I sound as if I am hollering a bit, Hal—no, I'm not—I'm just trying to tell you as a friend how things have been with me so that you'd understand. I hope the above explains it. I still keep in touch with my girl friend and she even wanted me to come there to live but I had to decide that I wouldn't even though I am in love with her (and I did try to move there). The problem I ran into in trying to move there was to get a job there. I tried to get a job both here in California and overseas. I finally landed one here as you heard from the Whites.

The Whites have helped me too (don't tell them I told you) but they are among the finest persons in the world I have ever met and it makes life worth while to know there are people like them.

I must admit that my decision not to move to Europe is partly based on the whims of my girl friend. She doesn't like her job and writes about moving on and travelling some more. As a realist I know that you can't do this unless you have some money behind you and her plans include so much travelling that Mrs. Onassis, herself, would have to dip into the till to have it occur.

I didn't tell my girl friend that I am not moving to Europe. She still thinks I am trying.

This pretty much tells you about myself up to date.

I will be contacting Jim Eason this week & other talk shows but I rarely listen to them. Jim is far and away the best of them all and has a prime spot from 7 to 10 p.m. every night. He can now be considered the number one man of the talk programs supplanting Ira Blue. (Blue has been sick and hospitalized for months & Jim luckily got his time slot and his standing).

Harv Morgan is strictly a news commentator & probably couldn't help on the securing of programs.

The talk shows have reached their height of popularity, I believe, and are now levelling off. It could be that within a year they'll all be done away with. The ones I have listened to are deadly dull (only Jim does well in keeping the subjects interesting & the speakers on their toes).

No, I don't have a copy of "Frame-Up". I saw it at Doubleday's book store in S.F. where it was in a good spot for readers to browse through. And one thing I can do is make sure every book store puts it in a prominent place & have each library get a copy. (I'll be visiting one tomorrow and I'll see that this is done).

Besides making these radio spots for you (and TV) I'll get to work writing a review of your book and get it published all over the place. (I have a tentative title for one of these reviews. It'll be called = "How to Suppress a Book Without Really Trying" which could be a tally sheet of your day by day run in with the media-book-gov't establishment concerning your book. (I read the Foreman confrontation thing you sent to the Whites & that's what I had in mind).

Another would be the publishers deciding to run only 5,000 copies when they knew that the name of Martin Luther King alone draws enough from a white audience let alone the black. True—blacks have to dig in pretty deep to come up with $10 but there are such things as black book clubs that can do something. (I'll be contacting one black printer in S.F. this week about your book. He was, in fact, a good friend of King & even knows about King's extra-curricular activities in S.F. He knows the woman involved).

Well, must get to bed. I hope this will tell you a little about what's going on.

I have a lot more to write about and will write you regularly. I definitely have specific ideas in mind about promos, etc. Will let you know.

Give my regards to your wife and tell her she'll be seeing more of my letters coming regularly from now on in.

Best,
Hal